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The tripartite agreement between Great Britain, Germany and the United States for the dissolution of the Samoan partnership is probably a happy solution of a very troublesome question. Incidentally it is a considerable real estate transaction by which Great Britain cedes to Germany all her interests in Samoa, in exchange for Germany's interest in the Tonga Islands and some others in the South Pacific. With the deal between these two powers the United States has nothing to do, but by joint agreement acquires the island of Tutuila, including the harbor and coaling station in Pago-Pago, and some other small islands near by. As the harbor of Pago-Pago is all the United States has ever contended for or desired the new arrangement will doubtless be entirely satisfactory to this country. Altogether, it looks like a very satisfactory settlement of an irritating question.

GERMANY CULTIVATING NEW FRIENDS.

It has been stated several times lately in the foreign dispatches, as if to emphasize the fact, that Germany has declined to enter into or encourage the movement for European intervention in the Transvaal war. As such intervention would be distinctly unfriendly to Great Britain, Germany's refusal to participate in it is a friendly act on her part. Recent events seem to indicate a disposition on the part of Germany to readjust her international relations and, perhaps, to favor the much-talked-of Anglo-Saxon alliance, including under the term Saxon the Germans. Such an alliance, in its broadest sense, would include Great Britain, the United States and Germany. There is not the least probability that these nations of any two of them will ever enter into a formal treaty or hard and fast alliance binding themselves to make common cause of any controversy in which either of them might be embroiled, but it is quite possible that they might establish such friendly relations as would be equivalent to an understanding that in any great or threatening emergency they would stand together. There has been a distinct approach to such a tact under existing conditions. Great Britain and the United States during the last two years. At the beginning of the war with Spain British sympathy with the United States was so manifest as to attract the attention of all other powers. It is no longer a secret that the attitude of Great Britain at that time was the main cause of the failure of an attempt to bring about European intervention in behalf of Spain. Great Britain not only refused to join in the proposed intervention, but gave other powers to understand that it must not be attempted. At that time Germany was not showing any friendship for either Great Britain or the United States. Everybody remembers how meddlesome and exasperating was the conduct of the German naval officers at Manila, and how Admiral Dewey had to "call them down." Germany repeatedly disavowed any unfriendly designs or feeling towards the United States, yet her ships continued to "hang around" the Philippines for some time after it became evident that the islands had passed under American control, and there is scarcely a doubt that if a favorable pretext or opening had offered Germany would have seized one of the islands or in some way tried to obtain a foothold there. During the entire war with Spain neither the German government, press or people evinced any sympathy with the United States, affording a marked contrast in this respect to the attitude of the British.

But a change seems to have come over Germany, and from an attitude of almost unfriendliness towards Great Britain and the United States she now seems disposed to cultivate the friendship of both. As for Great Britain, we note, first, the reiterated refusal of Germany to join in the intervention movement; second, the public announcement that the Emperor's famous telegram of sympathy to President Kruger at the time of the Jameson raid had been misconstrued, and was not intended to be unfriendly to Great Britain; third, the Emperor's approaching visit to the Queen, which, doubtless, means more than a mere friendly or family call. As for the United States, we note, first, the revocation of an order excluding American insurance companies from doing business in Germany; second, an expressed desire on the part of the government for a closer commercial treaty and improved relations generally with the United States; third, the consent of Germany to a friendly partition of the Samoan Islands, on terms satisfactory to both Great Britain and the United States. It might be added that, during General Harrison's recent visit to Berlin he received very marked and unusual attentions from Emperor William, who evidently intended to placate the government and people through their ex-ambassador.

It is true, as these things indicate, that Germany has changed her attitude of suspicion and dislike towards Great Britain and of superior and contemptuous indifference towards the United States to one that courts the friendship of both countries, it may mean much for civilization and future history. These three nations should be true and lasting friends. Their peoples represent different branches of the same family and together constitute, in a broad sense, the Anglo-Saxon race. They are all liberty-loving and progressive peoples, and they are all Protestant peoples. They have nothing in common with the Latin race nor with the Slavonic races. The domestic tastes and habits of the three peoples are much alike. Their literatures flow together. Shakespeare is read in Germany almost as much as he is in England or the United States, and Goethe is read in Germany almost as much as he is in England or the United States. The three nations should be friends and enemies. There has stood in the way of its adoption, but Mr. Heath's figures remove that objection. In the statement that this delivery, as far as it has been adopted, costs the department but 54 cents per capita, while the free delivery in cities of only 5,000 inhabitants costs \$2.90 per capita.

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